



# State of Utah

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES  
DIVISION OF OIL, GAS AND MINING

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Michael O. Leavitt  
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Division Director

June 23, 1998

Mr. Glenn M. Eurick  
Director Environmental Relations US  
Barrick Resources (USA) Inc.  
Barrick Mercur Gold Mine  
P.O. Box 838  
Tooele, Utah 84074-0838

Re: Approval of Variance Requests, Barrick Resources (USA) Inc., Barrick Mercur Gold Mine, M/045/017, Tooele County, Utah

Dear Mr. Eurick:

This letter is sent as a follow up to our most recent (June 16, 1998) meeting and site inspection of the ongoing reclamation activities taking place at the Mercur Gold Mine. During our meeting three (3) areas of concern/change were brought up by Barrick personnel for discussion. Each of these areas were visually inspected on the ground before we left the mine site area. Barrick asked for formal DOGM approval to change the proposed reclamation plans for each of these areas. The three areas are described as follows:

1. ***Lower North Mercur Dump (Variance Request)***

Barrick has asked for a variance to leave a small portion (@3-4 acres) of this existing waste rock dump at its present angle of repose slope angle, rather than grade it out to an approximate 2H:1V slope. This northwestern end of the dump blends in quite well with the existing undisturbed slope located immediately adjacent (west) to the dump. This dump slope has a significant amount of revegetation by natural invasion which is stabilizing a reasonable amount of the slope. Barrick proposed to hydroseed and mulch this slope as is.

2. ***Mercur Hill Basin***

This area encompasses approximately 10+ acres within the Mercur Hill Pit along the southeast highwall. The approved mine plan identifies this area as stable highwall which was approved to remain unreclaimed. This area has not remained stable and a portion of

Page 2  
Glenn M. Eurick  
M/045/017  
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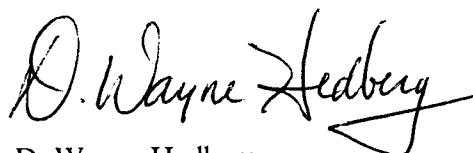
the highwall has slumped down into the pit bottom. Barrick proposes to grade these slumped sections to approximately 2H:1V, and then double mulch and seed the affected area. Access above the highwall to push topsoil over the regraded slopes is not available.

3. *Carrie Steele Brickyard Waste Dump*

This small dump area (@3-4 acres) is located on a south-facing slope in the northwestern end of the permit area. Due to an oversight(?) it was not included in the original approved reclamation plan. At the time of our inspection Barrick had already initiated regrading this dump slope down to the approximate original contour. Barrick proposes double mulching and seeding this recontoured slope. No topsoil is proposed to be placed over this regraded slope because all access roads into this general area have been reclaimed.

The Division concurs and grants its approval of Barrick's proposed reclamation plans for these three areas. Barrick is hereby directed to proceed with the reclamation as planned. If you have any questions or concerns with this approval, please contact me at (801) 538-5286 at your convenience.

Sincerely,



D. Wayne Hedberg  
Permit Supervisor  
Minerals Regulatory Program

jb  
cc: Mary Ann Wright, DOGM  
Minerals file  
M045017.var